



# **BUILD INDIANA COUNCIL**

## **Infrastructure Media Summary**

### **July 20, 2017**

#### **Which Indiana counties will get the most road funding? (Hint: Not Hamilton County)**

Indianapolis Star

Kaitlin L. Lange and Tony Cook

7/20/17

Hamilton County is the fastest growing county in Indiana, but it's slated to receive less money per person than nearly every other county in the state's recently released five-year roads construction plan. Every Hoosier has to pay the new 10-cent gas tax increase in order to help fund the \$4.7 billion roads plan, but not every county will see the same benefit. Statewide, the plan will amount to about \$480 per person in spending over the next five years. That calculation doesn't include the portion of the \$4.7 billion dedicated for uses beyond direct road maintenance and construction, such as for traffic lights or cable barriers. In Hamilton County, the state only has plans to spend about \$80 per person. Only Monroe County will receive less, at \$72 per person. Morgan County — home to Martinsville and Mooresville — will by far receive the most road funding per capita at about \$4,115 per person. Marion County sits in the bottom 20 of Indiana's 92 counties in terms of spending per person. When looking at total spending per county, however, Marion County received the second most, just after Morgan County. Johnson and Hendricks also grace the top five in overall spending per county. Scott Manning, an Indiana Department of Transportation spokesman, said it's important to keep in mind that those figures don't include recent road investments in many counties. "INDOT's investment on a per county basis is driven by the number of centerline miles of INDOT maintained roads in a given county and the condition ratings of the existing roads and bridges," Manning said. "Population is not part of the formula." He said a comprehensive list of the number of miles per county does not exist. In Hamilton County, INDOT has spent \$472 million over the last five years and only has six miles of lanes the state has labeled as in poor condition.

<http://www.indystar.com/story/news/politics/2017/07/20/hamilton-county-wont-get-much-road-funding-per-person/485416001/>

#### **EDITORIAL: Show us Hoosier road results quickly**

NWI Times

7/19/17

It's been billed by our governor as "the largest nonstop sustainable building program that our state has ever seen." Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb also has said Hoosiers across the state will soon "see" and "feel" the results of a newly passed \$4.7 billion infrastructure project. It's paramount that the governor, state transportation officials and lawmakers ensure they make good on these promises of tangible road improvements — and quickly. State lawmakers, including Indiana House Rep. Ed Soliday, R-Valparaiso, who led the road-plan charge, showed both wisdom and bravery in shepherding a 10-cent-per-gallon fuel tax through the last legislative session. That tax took effect July 1, and we're already experiencing the higher pump prices as a

result. That tax is aimed at bringing our most important infrastructure — the roadways that link our points of commerce and way of life — back to respectability. We've consistently argued the tax plan was both worthy of support and necessary to our state's long-term viability. But now the state must demonstrate in the most tangible ways possible how it's making good on promises to make our American crossroads the envy of the Midwest and nation.

[http://www.nwitimes.com/news/opinion/editorial/editorial-show-us-hoosier-road-results-quickly/article\\_11f66af0-4b99-5856-af5f-77525909ed2a.html](http://www.nwitimes.com/news/opinion/editorial/editorial-show-us-hoosier-road-results-quickly/article_11f66af0-4b99-5856-af5f-77525909ed2a.html)

### **State unveils highway construction plans**

The Herald Argus

7/18/17

INDIANAPOLIS — State officials are unveiling details of a highway-improvement effort that will plow more than \$78 million into La Porte County roads, bridges and traffic signals over the next five years. The five-year plan is the first part of the state's Next Level Roads initiative, a 20-year effort to improve Indiana roads and bridges. "Our transportation network of roads and bridges plays a major part in Indiana's success story both now and in the future," Gov. Eric Holcomb said in a news release. Holcomb in May asked the Indiana Department of Transportation to provide a list of projects to begin and be completed in the next five years. "With a fully-funded plan in place for the next 20 years, Hoosiers can rest assured that Indiana will remain the Crossroads of America for generations to come," he said. "I thank our lawmakers for their committed leadership to make this possible, and I commend INDOT for working hard to identify key projects so that we could be ready to roll with this five-year plan so quickly." The road construction plan outlines specific INDOT projects that will preserve existing roads and bridges, finish current projects and invest in Indiana's overall transportation system. The plan outlines about \$4.7 billion in total investment over the next five years — resurfacing nearly 10,000 lane miles of pavement and repairing or replacing about 1,300 bridges. Beyond this initial, five-year investment in state projects, the Next Level initiative provides an additional \$342 million annually to support Indiana cities, towns and counties for local road projects by 2024.

[http://www.heraldargus.com/news/state-unveils-highway-construction-plans/article\\_b7a58b6e-6c03-11e7-a7c5-fb0fa5ae8afc.html](http://www.heraldargus.com/news/state-unveils-highway-construction-plans/article_b7a58b6e-6c03-11e7-a7c5-fb0fa5ae8afc.html)

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